# *Getting Started*

## Creative CardCam Value

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CREATIVE

# CREATIVE CardCam Value

## Contents

**Introduction**
Creative PC-CAM Center ..... xii
Creative WebCam Monitor ..... xii
Microsoft NetMeeting ..... xii
Ulead Photo Express MCE ..... xii
Before You Begin ..... xiii
Package Contents ..... xiii
Included Software ..... xiii
Third party software ..... xiii
README File ..... xiii
Minimum System Requirements ..... xiv
Updating Drivers ..... xiv
Document Conventions ..... xv

**1 About your Creative CardCam Value**
About your camera ..... 1-2
Functions of Control Buttons and the LCD display ..... 1-4
Control Buttons ..... 1-4
LCD display modes ..... 1-5
Enabling Audio Cues ..... 1-5
Inserting or Changing Batteries ..... 1-6
Installing Creative CardCam Value ..... 1-7
In Windows 98/98 SE/Me ..... 1-7
In Windows 2000 ..... 1-9
In Windows XP ..... 1-10
In Windows 98/98SE/Me/2000/XP ..... 1-12

**2 Using Creative CardCam Value as a Digital Camera**
Precautions during Battery Low status ..... 2-2
Taking Pictures ..... 2-3

Tips on Taking Good Pictures ..... 2-5
Downloading Images from the Camera ..... 2-5
Deleting Images from the Camera ..... 2-6
Deleting images in docked mode ..... 2-6

**3 Using Creative CardCam Value as a Web Camera**
Starting Microsoft NetMeeting ..... 3-2
Starting Microsoft Netmeeting Help ..... 3-3
Using PC-CAM Center ..... 3-4
Capturing Images and Videos ..... 3-5
Taking a Photo in Preview Mode ..... 3-6
Deleing images in docked mode ..... 3-6
Recording a Video in Preview Mode ..... 3-6
Viewing a Photo ..... 3-7
Viewing a Video ..... 3-7
Sending a video clip via email ..... 3-8
Reactivating the Camera ..... 3-8
Starting PC-CAM Center Help ..... 3-8
Starting Creative WebCam Monitor ..... 3-9

**A Technical Specifications**
Features and Specifications ..... A-2
Detached mode ..... A-2
Docked mode ..... A-3
Audio/visual indications ..... A-3
Sensor ..... A-3
Exposure Control ..... A-3
Color Balance ..... A-4
Driver and Operating System Compatibility ..... A-4

**B Troubleshooting**
Problem Installing Software ..... B-2

Problems Using Creative CardCam Value ..... B-2
Problems when changing batteries ..... B-4
Problems in Windows XP ..... B-5
Register your product for better support ..... B-5

**C Note on USB Compatibility**

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CREATIVE CardCam Value

# Introduction

# Introduction

Creative CardCam Value is a compact digital camera that is near the size of a credit card. Your camera captures images in 24-bit (16.7 million) colors at up to 640 x 480 pixel resolution with software interpolation. As an added benefit, it also captures video clips in full-color at up to 30 frames per second. The following are just some of the things you can do with your Creative CardCam Value:

- **Portable Digital Camera**. As Creative CardCam Value is portable, you can use it as a digital camera to take pictures anywhere you like! With Creative CardCam Value's focus-free lens, you don't need to manually focus your camera. Downloading images from Creative CardCam Value is a breeze with the PC-CAM Centre software.
- **Video Conferencing**. You can use the included Microsoft Netmeeting® software with Creative CardCam Value to send video images to other Netmeeting users.
- **Security Camera**. Worried that someone will use your computer without your knowledge? Creative CardCam Value can function as a security camera, recording short videos of any movement in its field of view. It can also be programmed to take pictures automatically at regular intervals.

Creative CardCam Value is also compatible with Instant Messenger Software, such as Microsoft® Network (MSN), AOL® Instant Messenger (AIM) and Yahoo Messenger. Use Creative Creative CardCam Value to add video input to your favorite Instant Messaging software, such as MSN Messenger, Yahoo® Messenger, or the Windows® Messenger feature built into Windows XP.

# About the Applications

## Creative PC-CAM Center

This powerful application lets you take pictures or record videos and store them in albums. Use this application to download pictures to your computer, when using Creative CardCam Value as a portable digital camera. You can also export pictures or videos to other programs, or send them as attachments in your e-mail messages. There are various settings for you to adjust, allowing you to optimize the quality of your pictures and videos.

## Creative WebCam Monitor

If you are thinking of going "live" on the Internet, Creative WebCam Monitor is the application to use. Just aim your camera and pick a time interval. WebCam Monitor does the rest, including uploading the snapshots to the Internet. WebCam Monitor also acts as a motion-detecting security system which automatically e-mails snapshots to you if it detects any motion in the area being monitored.

## Microsoft NetMeeting

Microsoft NetMeeting is a voice communications client that includes support for international conferencing standards and provides true multi-user application sharing and data conferencing capabilities.

It supports one-way or two-way videoconferencing, so your friends can see you even if they do not have a camera. Audio-only conversations and text chats are also supported. Two or more users can collaborate on a document, doodle on a whiteboard, or even share any Windows application in real-time over the Internet or a corporate intranet.

## Ulead Photo Express MCE

Ulead® Photo Express™ MCE has everything you need to get started with picture editing and sharing. Sort your pictures in seconds using the visual thumbnail Browse mode. Retouch imperfect photos with quick and easy-to-use enhancement tools.

Ulead Photo Express MCE is fully customizable and allows you to add cool captions to photos with colorful eye-catching text. You can even e-mail your pictures as HTML mail or as attachments.

# Before You Begin

## Package Contents

Your camera package contains the following items:

- ❑ One Creative CardCam Value camera
- ❑ One wrist-strap
- ❑ One USB cable
- ❑ Two 1.5 V Alkaline AAA batteries (twin pack)
- ❑ One Creative CardCam Value installation CD
- ❑ One Quick Start guide

## Included Software

- ❑ Creative PC-CAM Center
- ❑ Creative WebCam Monitor

## Third party software

- ❑ Ulead Photo Express MCE 4.0
- ❑ Microsoft NetMeeting
- ❑ Adobe® Acrobat® Reader Version 5.0
- ❑ Microsoft Internet Explorer 5.5
- ❑ Microsoft DirectX 8.0

## README File

The README file on the Creative CardCam Value installation CD contains information not available at the time of printing. Read the file before connecting your CardCam Value to the computer.

## Minimum System Requirements

- ❑ Intel® Pentium® II 233 MHz or faster processor
- ❑ 32 MB RAM
- ❑ ATA-33 or faster hard disk
- ❑ AGP display adapter capable of 16-bit color in 800 x 600-pixel display mode
- ❑ 70 MB free hard disk space
- ❑ Available USB port or self-powered USB hub
- ❑ Microsoft Windows® 98, Windows 98 Second Edition (SE), Windows Millennium Edition (Me), Windows 2000 or Windows XP
- ❑ CD-ROM drive installed
- ❑ Sound Blaster® or other compatible audio card and microphone (required for videoconferencing)
- ❑ Modem or LAN access to the Internet at 28.8 Kbps or faster (required for videoconferencing)

Creative does not assume any costs charged to connect to the Internet.

For optimal performance:

- ❑ Intel Pentium-II 350 MHz or faster processor
- ❑ 64 MB system memory or more
- ❑ ATA-66 or faster hard disk
- ❑ Display adapter that supports at least 16-bit color at a resolution of 1024 x 768 pixels
- ❑ Sound Blaster 16 or higher, or other Windows-compatible audio card, with full-duplex support for simultaneous two-way conversations

## Product Registration

Enjoy a host of benefits by registering your product during installation, or at www.creative.com/register.

Benefits include:

- Service and product support from Creative.
- Exclusive updates on promotions and events.

## Updating Drivers

To download the latest drivers and file updates for Creative CardCam Value, visit http://www.creative.com.

## Technical Support

For Technical Support Information, refer to the document D:\Support\Language\Support.pdf on the Installation CD, where D: represents your CD-ROM.

# Document Conventions

The following typographical conventions are used throughout this document:

*Table 1: Document conventions*

| This | Represents |
|---|---|
| | This notepad icon indicates information that is of particular importance and should be considered before continuing. |
| | This alarm clock icon indicates that failure to adhere to directions may result in loss of data or damage to your computer. |
| | The warning sign indicates that failure to adhere to directions may result in bodily harm or life-threatening situations. |

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CREATIVE CardCam Value

# 1 About your Creative CardCam Value

# About your Creative CardCam Value

## About your camera

The following figures show you the front and back views of the camera.

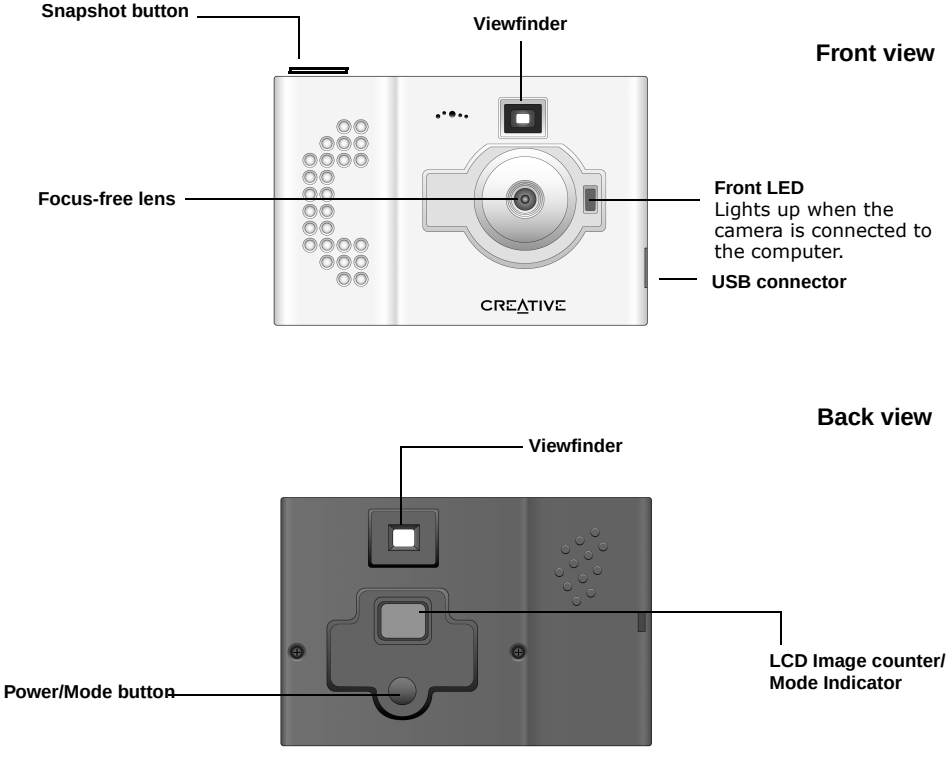
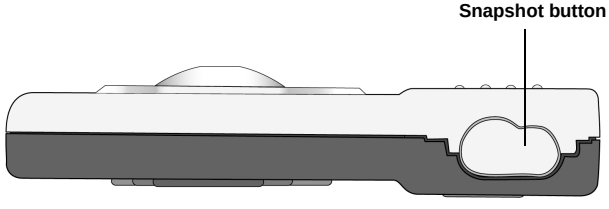
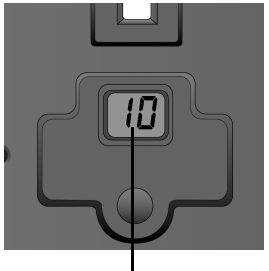



*Figure 1-1: Front and back views of Creative CardCam Value.*

The following figures show you the buttons and Liquid Crystal Display (LCD) on the camera.

**Top view**




**By default, the LCD counter displays the number of snapshots taken**

**Mode Indications on the LCD display**

- Hr High Resolution snapshot mode
- Lr Low resolution snapshot mode
- Ct Multiple snapshot mode
- St Time-delayed exposure
- EL Erase Last image
- EA Erase All images
- bP Audible cues with beeps

*Figure 1-2: Buttons and LCD on Creative*

# Functions of Control Buttons and LCD display

The following section describes in detail the functions of the buttons and LCD mode indications on your Creative CardCam Value. Refer to Figure 1-1 and Figure 1-2 for the location of these buttons and LCDs on your camera.

## Control Buttons

The following buttons are found on your Creative CardCam Value:

The camera will turn itself off if it is left idle for three minutes.

- **Power/Mode button**

  To turn on your camera:

  Press this button to turn on your camera. You can only turn on your camera when it is disconnected from the computer.

  To turn off your camera:

  Press and hold this button for two seconds.

  To change operation modes:

  The same button also serves as a **Mode** button for changing the operation mode of the camera. It can access seven modes:

  - Single snapshot (high resolution 640 x 480 pixels, software interpolated)
  - Single snapshot (low resolution 320 x 240 pixels)
  - Time-delayed exposure after 10 seconds (low resolution)
  - Multiple snapshots: 5 shots per second (low resolution)
  - Erase Last image
  - Erase All images
  - Audible cue On/Off

  To display the number of snapshots left:

  Hold down the Power/Mode button for one second.

❑ **Snapshot button**

This button is used for taking photos. Press the button to take a picture. It is also used with the **Power/Mode** button to switch between or select settings.

## LCD display modes

The 640 x 480 resolution is achieved via software interpolation.

By default, the LCD counter displays the number of pictures taken. If the **Power/Mode** button is pressed for 1 second, the screen will display the number of pictures left, followed by the mode, and then the number of pictures taken.

Depending on which mode you are in, this counter displays the total number of photos taken, the mode, or the number of shots left.

The following abbreviations are found on your Creative CardCam Value's LCD picture counter:

- Single snapshot (high resolution 640 x 480 pixels) Hr
- Single snapshot (low resolution 320 x 240 pixels) Lr
- Time-delayed exposure at a 10-second delay (320 x 240 pixels) 5t
- Multiple snapshots at 5 shots per second (320 x 240 pixels) Ct
- Erase Last image EL
- Erase All images EA
- Audio Cue mode bP

# Enabling Audio Cues

The Audio Cues feature uses the camera's built-in buzzer for generating beep tones to notify you of an important operational status. See "Audio/visual indications" on page A-3. To enable your camera's audio cues, press the **Power/Mode** button until bP is displayed on the LCD. Then press the **Snapshot** button to turn audio cues on or off.

# Inserting or Changing Batteries

- No batteries are required when the camera is connected to the computer.
- If the camera is to be connected to the computer for a long period of time, remove the batteries to prevent battery leakage.
- Make sure that you insert the batteries in the correct direction. If not, they may leak and cause damage to the camera.
- Do not mix old batteries with new ones or batteries of different types together.

For Creative CardCam Value to function as a portable digital camera when it is disconnected from the computer, you need to insert two 1.5 V AAA alkaline batteries into its battery compartment.

To insert or replace batteries:

1. Press the **Power** button for two seconds to turn off the camera.
2. Holding the camera in one hand, push the battery compartment cover catch inwards, and then lift the cover up, as shown in Figure 1-3.
3. Remove the old batteries (if any).

*Figure 1-3: Opening the battery compartment.*

4. Insert the new batteries according to the directions shown in the battery compartment, as shown in Figure 1-4.
5. Close the battery compartment cover and then push the catch outward to lock the compartment cover.

Insert batteries in the direction of the arrows shown.

*Figure 1-4: Inserting batteries.*

# Installing Creative CardCam Value

Refer to the instructions for your computer's operating system.

For users of Windows 98, Windows 98 SE and Windows Me, see "In Windows 98/98 SE/Me" in the section that follows.

For users of Windows 2000, see "In Windows 2000" on page 1-9.

For users of Windows XP, see "In Windows XP" on page 1-10.

## In Windows 98/98 SE/Me

1. **Do not** connect Creative CardCam Value to your computer before installing the drivers.
   If you accidentally begin installation with Creative CardCam Value connected, the **Add New Hardware Wizard** dialog box appears. Click the **Cancel** button.
2. Insert the Creative CardCam Value CD into your CD-ROM drive.
3. Click the names of the drivers and applications you want to install on your computer.
4. Follow the instructions on the screen to complete the installation.
   You may be asked, after an application is installed, if you want to restart your computer. Select **No** until all the drivers and applications are installed.

- The USB port(s) of certain computers may be found on the front panel instead of the back panel.
- You can also attach the camera to a self-powered USB hub.

5. Connect Creative CardCam Value's USB cable to an available USB port on your computer (see Figure 1-5). Place Creative CardCam Value on top of your computer monitor or another flat surface. You can connect the camera while the computer is turned on.
   Windows automatically detects the device.

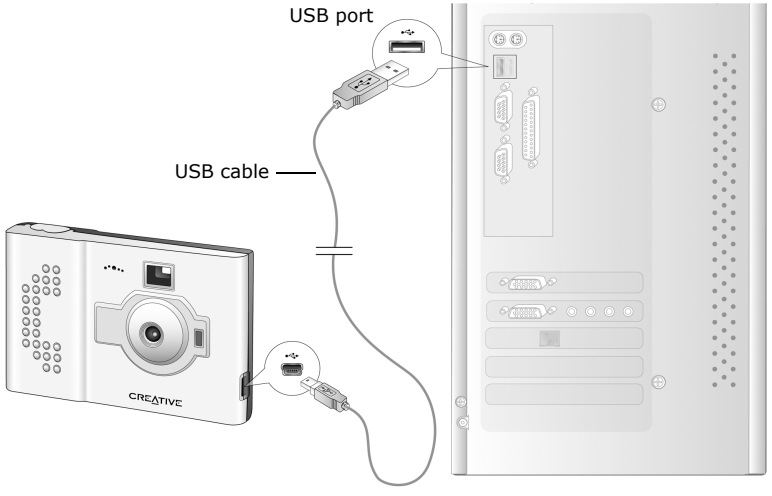



*Figure 1-5: Connecting Creative CardCam Value.*

i. If you are prompted to insert the Windows 98 CD, replace the Creative CardCam Value Installation CD with the appropriate CD.
   **Note:** Windows 98 is available in various editions. Be sure to use the correct edition for your computer.
ii. In the **Insert Disk** dialog box, click the **OK** button.
iii. Follow the instructions on the screen.

6. When the **Creative CardCam Value Camera Configuration** dialog box appears, check the image in the **Video preview** pane. If it flickers or displays a series of dark bands, click the **Cancel Flicker** button.
7. Click the **Finish** button, and then restart your computer.

## In Windows 2000

1. **Do not** connect Creative CardCam Value to your computer before installing the drivers.
   If you accidentally begin installation with Creative CardCam Value connected, the **Found New Hardware Wizard** dialog box appears. Click the **Cancel** button.
2. Insert the Creative CardCam Value CD into your CD-ROM drive.
3. Click the names of the drivers and applications you want to install on your computer.
4. Follow the instructions on the screen to complete the installation. You may be asked, after an application is installed, if you want to restart your computer. Do not restart your computer until all the drivers and applications are installed.
5. Connect Creative CardCam Value's USB cable to an available USB port on your computer (Figure 1-5). Place Creative CardCam Value on top of your computer monitor or another flat surface. Windows automatically detects the device.

6. Two **Digital Signature Not Found** dialog boxes will appear, one at a time, telling you that **Creative Creative CardCam Value (Still Image)** and **Creative Creative CardCam Value (Video)** (Figure 1-6) have been detected.
7. Click the **Yes** button. The **Creative CardCam Value Camera Configuration** dialog box appears.
8. Check the image in the **Video preview** pane. If it flickers or displays a series of dark bands, click the **Cancel Flicker** button.
9. Click the **Finish** button, and then restart your computer.

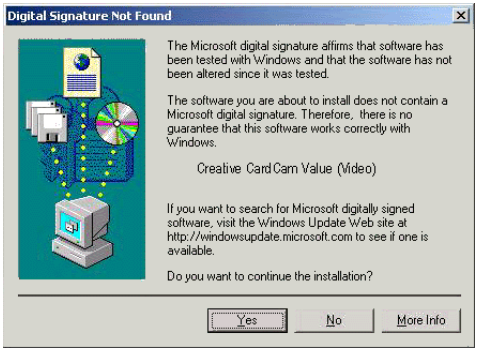

Digital Signature Not Found
The Microsoft digital signature affirms that software has been tested with Windows and that the software has not been altered since it was tested.
The software you are about to install does not contain a Microsoft digital signature. Therefore, there is no guarantee that this software works correctly with Windows.
Creative CardCam Value (Video)
If you want to search for Microsoft digitally signed software, visit the Windows Update Web site at http://windowsupdate.microsoft.com to see if one is available.
Do you want to continue the installation?
Yes
No
More Info

*Figure 1-6: Digital Signature Not Found dialog box.*

## In Windows XP

1. **Do not** connect Creative CardCam Value to your computer before installing the drivers.
   If you accidentally begin installation with Creative CardCam Value connected, the **Found New Hardware Wizard** dialog box appears. Click the **Cancel** button.
2. Insert the Creative CardCam Value CD into your CD-ROM drive.
3. Click the names of the drivers and applications you want to install on your computer.
4. Follow the instructions on the screen to complete the installation. You may be asked, after an application is installed, if you want to restart your computer. Do not restart your computer until all the drivers and applications are installed.

5. Connect Creative CardCam Value's USB cable to an available USB port on your computer (Figure 1-5). Place Creative CardCam Value on top of your computer monitor or another flat surface. Windows automatically detects the device.
6. If the **Found New Hardware Wizard** dialog box appears, select **Install the software automatically (Recommended)**, and then click the **Next** button. Installation will be complete in a while.
7. If three **Hardware Installation** dialog boxes appear, one at a time, ignore the messages and click the **Continue Anyway** button. For more details, see "Problems in Windows XP" on page B-4.
8. When the **Creative CardCam Value Camera Configuration** dialog box appears, check the image in the **Video preview** pane. If it flickers or displays a series of dark bands, click the **Cancel Flicker** button.
9. Click the **Finish** button, and then restart your computer.

At the time of this product's release, Microsoft strongly encouraged companies to submit their hardware solutions for certification. If a hardware device driver is not submitted, or does not qualify, for Microsoft certification, a warning message appears.
You may see this message when installing this driver. If you do, you may choose to click the **Continue Anyway** button. Creative has tested this driver on Windows XP, and it does not impair or destabilize your computer. If you need more XP-related information, go to the product web site's Help pages.

# Verifying the installation

## In Windows 98/ 98SE/Me/2000/XP

1. Click **Start** -> **Settings** -> **Control Panel**.
   For Windows XP, click **Start** -> **Control Panel**.
2. Double-click the **System** icon. The **System Properties** dialog box appears.
3. In the **System Properties** dialog box, click the **Device Manager** tab.
   For Windows 2000/XP, click the **Hardware** tab, and then click the **Device Manager** button.
4. Click the plus (+) sign next to the **Imaging Device** icon. The entries **Creative CardCam Value (Still Image)** and **Creative CardCam Value (Video)** should appear. Click the plus (+) sign next to the **Universal Serial Bus controllers** icon. The entry **Creative CardCam Value (Composite)** should appear.
   If the entries do not appear, repeat the steps for the correct operating system: "In Windows 98/98 SE/Me" on page 1-7, "In Windows 2000" on page 1-9 and "In Windows XP" on page 1-10.

CREATIVE

CREATIVE CardCam Value

# 2 Using Creative CardCam Value as a Digital Camera

# Using Creative CardCam Value as a Digital Camera

You can use the Creative CardCam Value as a portable digital camera when it is not connected to your computer.
**Note:** Remember to insert two 1.5 V AAA alkaline batteries into the camera's battery compartment.

## Precautions during Battery Low status

When the battery is running low, the following occurs:

- First warning: camera will beep three times.
- Final warning when batteries are almost flat: camera will beep five times, and will be forced into Sleep Mode until batteries are replaced.

At first warning of a low battery condition, change the batteries as soon as possible. Pictures already stored in the camera will still be retrievable under low battery conditions for a limited time.

# Taking Pictures

- You can only turn the camera on when it is disconnected from the computer.
- The multiple snapshot mode consumes more battery power.
- The camera turns itself off if it is left idle after three minutes.

1. Make sure the USB cable is unplugged from the camera.
2. Press the **Power/Mode** button on the camera. Your camera beeps once. When the camera is first turned on, it is in the default state.
   The following default LCD icons are displayed:
   - ❑ The default operation mode will be displayed: Single Snapshot (High resolution, 640 x 480 pixels, software interpolated) mode.
   - ❑ The number of images you have taken so far is shown by the image counter on the LCD.
3. Press the **Power/Mode** button until one of the following desired modes appears:
   - ❑ **Single snapshot Hr (high resolution)**

     Select this mode if you want to take single snapshots at high resolution. Images are captured at a resolution of 640 x 480 pixels (software interpolated). Press the **Snapshot** button to take a snapshot. The front LED blinks once when the image is stored into memory, and remains lit after the image is saved. Up to 22 HR snapshots can be stored in memory.
   - ❑ **Single snapshot Lr (low resolution)**

     Select this mode if you want to take single snapshots at normal resolution. Images are captured at a resolution of 320 x 240 pixels.
     Press the **Snapshot** button to take a snapshot. The front LED blinks once and blinks when the image is stored into memory, and turns on after the image is saved. Up to 99 LR snapshots can be stored in memory.
   - ❑ **Time-delayed single snapshot 5t (high resolution)**

     Select this mode if you want a high resolution snapshot (640 x 480 pixels) to be taken after a delay of 10 seconds. You can use this feature to take pictures of yourself.

     Press the **Snapshot** button to start the delayed snapshot. The front LED light will blink with increasing speed and then proceed to take a snapshot in the Single snapshot mode. The delay time is ten seconds.

**Note:** You can cancel the snapshot while the camera is counting down by pressing the **Snapshot** button again.

- **Multiple snapshot mode**
  Select this mode if you want to take a series of five successive snapshots at 320 x 240 pixel resolution.
  After selecting this mode, press the **Snapshot** button once to take the snapshots. The front red LED will light up, indicating that the images are being stored to memory. The image counter displays that the total number of snapshots has increased by five.

4. After selecting the snapshot mode, aim the camera at the desired object, and use the camera's viewfinder to verify that the object is in the camera's view.
   **Note:** The object should be at least 60 cm (24 inches) from the camera.
5. Hold the camera steady and press the **Snapshot** button. The front red LED lights up. At this point, do not shake the camera. When the picture has been taken, the indicator turns off.
   The picture taken is stored in the camera's memory, and the counter value increases accordingly, depending on the resolution of the picture taken.
6. To take another picture, repeat steps 4 through 5.
7. To turn off the camera, press and hold the **Power/Mode** button for two seconds.

- To view pictures that you have taken while using the camera on-the-go, you must connect the camera to the computer and download the pictures using PC-CAM Center.
- As JPEG compresses an image according to its details, colors and compression ratio, the file size varies according to the picture taken.

- The image counter value normally increases by one after a picture is taken. However, depending on the quality of the picture, the counter value may also increase by two, or not at all.

## Tips on Taking Good Pictures

Here are some tips for taking a good picture.

- **Bright lighting**

  Avoid taking pictures with bright light sources all around the object. These lights will create "hotspots," which will affect the quality of the picture.

- **Bad lighting**

  When indoors or outdoors, be sure there is enough light falling onto the object. Avoid taking pictures of objects in shadow, especially when the light source (for example, sun or spotlight) is directly behind the object.

- **Distance**

  This camera is focus free but be sure the minimum distance between camera and object is not less than 60 cm (24 inches). Any closer, and the close-up images may appear blurry. Fill the viewfinder with the object.

- **Moving objects**

  Fast-moving objects may appear blurry in your picture.
  Unless a blurry or out-of-focus effect snapshot is intended, avoid taking fast-moving objects.

- **Camera shake**

  Shaking the camera while taking pictures may also result in a blurry picture. So keep your hands steady at all times for sharp, clear pictures.
  To avoid shaking the camera, gently squeeze the **Snapshot** button.
  If necessary, use both hands to hold the camera while pressing the **Snapshot** button.

## Downloading Images from the Camera

To download the pictures you have saved, connect the camera to your computer and then start PC-CAM Center to download the files.

To download pictures, do the following:

1. Connect your CardCam to the computer and start PC-CAM Center.

2. Click the **Digital Camera** button. Temporary copies of the PC-CAM files are created automatically, and displayed as thumbnails in the thumbnails window.
3. Click the **Select All** button to select all the files.
4. Click the **Transfer To** button. The **Transfer** dialog box appears.
5. Click the **Photo** tab containing the destination media album you want. Only the tab belonging to the media of the selected files will appear.
6. Click the computer you want to transfer the files to.
7. Click the **OK** button.

## Deleting Images from the Camera

After downloading the picture files safely into your computer, delete them from your camera to make space for new pictures to be stored.

When Creative CardCam Value is not connected to your computer and you are using it as a portable digital camera, do the following to delete all the files in your camera's memory:

1. In any mode, press the **Power/Mode** button until the LCD displays FA.
2. Press the **Snapshot** button to delete all the files from the camera. A beep will sound (if the Audible Cues feature is on) when the memory is cleared, and the LCD displays the available frames in that particular mode.

To clear the latest image recorded in your camera, do the following:

1. In any mode, press the **Power/Mode** button until the LCD displays EL.
2. Press the **Snapshot** button to delete the most recently taken shot. A beep will sound when the memory is cleared, and the LCD displays the available frames in that particular mode.

## Deleting images in docked mode

To delete images in docked mode, refer to "Deleting images in docked mode" on page 3-4

CREATIVE

CREATIVE CardCam Value

# 3 Using Creative CardCam Value as a Web Camera

# Using Creative CardCam Value as a Web Camera

## Using PC-CAM Center

If PC-CAM Center does not recognize the camera correctly, see Troubleshooting on Page B-1.

PC-CAM Center is an easy-to-use application that enables you to take pictures and record short videos with the Creative CardCam Value camera. You can also view pictures and videos, create and manage albums, and download image files from your camera.

To start PC-CAM Center, do one of the following:

- Click **Start** -> **Programs** -> **Creative** -> **Creative CardCam Value** -> **PC-CAM Center**.
- Press the **Snapshot** button on the camera while it is connected to your computer.
- If, during installation, you clicked the option for PC-CAM Center to launch automatically at Windows startup, you will have an icon on your taskbar. Click this icon.
- You can start PC-CAM Center from the menu that appears when your PC-CAM is auto detected.

After PC-CAM Center is started, the PC-CAM Center screen similar to the figure below, appears. The following sections describe the more commonly used operations. For more details on how to use PC-CAM Center, see the section "Starting PC-CAM Center Help" on page 3-1.

*Figure 3-1:* ***PC-CAM Center*** *screen.*

## Capturing Images and Videos

With PC-CAM Center, you can take photos and record videos in two modes — with or without a preview. The preview mode is active by default.
For instructions on how to take a photo or record a video without a preview, refer to the PC-CAM Center Help file. To launch PC-CAM Center Help, see "Starting PC-CAM Center Help" on page 3-1.

## Taking a Photo in Preview Mode

When in docked mode, do not use the CardCam's **Snapshot** button to take pictures in PC-CAM Center. Use the onscreen snap button provided in PC-CAM Center.

To take a photo in the default preview mode:

1. In the **PC-CAM Center** window, click the **Live Video** button.
   The current camera view is displayed in the **Viewing** window.
2. In the **Save Photo in** box, select the destination album for your photo.
3. If the **Save automatically** check box is selected, click to clear it.
4. To capture the image in the **Viewing** window, click the **Snap Photo** button at the bottom of the window.
   The image is captured but not saved. A preview of the photo is shown at the bottom-left corner of the **Live Video** window.
5. Click the **Save** button.
   The photo is added to the destination album.

## Deleting images in docked mode

When Creative CardCam Value is docked to your computer, do the following to delete images:

1. In the **PC-CAM Center** window, click the **Digital Camera** button.
   A thumbnail view of the pictures stored in the camera's memory is displayed.
2. To delete all the images, click the **Select All** button, and then click the **Delete** button on the toolbar. All the selected files are removed from the camera's memory.
3. If you wish to delete just the most recent snapshot, refer to See "Deleting Images from the Camera" on page 2-6.

## Recording a Video in Preview Mode

To record a video in the default preview mode:

1. In the **PC-CAM Center** window, click the **Live Video** button.
   The current camera view is displayed in the **Viewing** window.
2. In the **Video Size** box, select a suitable resolution.
3. In the **Save Video in** box, select the destination album for your photo.
4. If the **Save automatically** check box is selected, click to clear it.

5. To start recording a video, click the **Capture video** button.
   The button starts blinking to indicate that recording is now in progress.
6. To stop the recording, click the button again.
   The button stops blinking. The video is captured as an AVI file but is not saved.
7. To preview the video, click the **Play** button on the bottom-left corner of the **Live Video** window.
   After you have previewed the video, and have decided that you want to save the video, click the **Save** button.
8. The video capture is added to the destination album.

## Viewing a Photo

To view a photo you have taken:

1. Click the **My Album** button.
   PC-CAM Center is now in **My Album** mode.
2. In the **My Album** box, click the **My Photo** folder and then click the album that contains the photos that you want to view.
   The album's thumbnails are displayed in the **Thumbnails** window.
3. Double-click the thumbnail of the image that is displayed in the **Thumbnails** window.
   The image is displayed in the PC-CAM Center **Viewing** window, in its actual size. If you are not satisfied with the result, you can select a higher resolution, and then capture the image again.

## Viewing a Video

To view a video you have taken:

1. Click the **My Album** button.
   PC-CAM Center is now in **My Album** mode.
2. In the **My Album** box, click the **My Video** folder and then click the album that contains the video that you want to view.
   The album's thumbnails are displayed in the **Thumbnails** window.

3. Double-click the thumbnail of the video that is displayed in the **Thumbnails** window.
   The video is displayed in the PC-CAM Center **Viewing** window, in its actual size. If you are not satisfied with the result, you can select a higher resolution, and then capture the video again.

## Sending a video via email

To send video captured in PC-CAM Center:

1. Click the **My Album** button. PC-CAM Center is now in **My Album** mode.
2. In the **My Album** box, locate and click the album containing the video you want to e-mail. The album's thumbnails are displayed in the thumbnails window.
3. Click the **E-mail** button. The **Send E-mail** dialog box appears.
4. In the **To** and **Subject** boxes, fill in the destination email address and subject title of your email.
5. Click the **Send** button. Your default e-mail application sends the email with the video as an attachment.

## Reactivating the Camera

If your computer goes into standby mode, your camera will go into Suspend mode. You can reactivate the camera and computer by moving the mouse or pressing a key on the keyboard.

## Starting PC-CAM Center Help

This Help file contains instructions on how to use PC-CAM Center to take pictures and record short videos. It also teaches you how to change settings so as to achieve optimum quality for your pictures and videos.

To start the Help file:

1. Start PC CAM Center, and then press the **F1** key on your computer keyboard.
2. Click the **Help Topics** button.

# Starting Microsoft NetMeeting

When your CardCam is connected to the computer, you can use it as a basic web camera to send video images with Microsoft NetMeeting, an easy-to-use application distributed with Microsoft Internet Explorer.

To start Microsoft NetMeeting, do one of the following:

- ❑ Locate the shortcut for Microsoft NetMeeting and click on its icon to launch the program.
- ❑ Or, if you had previously set Microsoft NetMeeting to launch automatically at Windows startup, you will have an icon on your taskbar. Click this icon instead.
- ❑ Otherwise, you may find the shortcut at **Start** -> **Programs** -> **Accessories**> **Communications** -> **Microsoft NetMeeting.**

After Microsoft Netmeeting has been started, a screen similar to the picture below, appears. For more details on how to use Microsoft NetMeeting, refer to its online Help file (see below).

*Figure 3-2: Microsoft NetMeeting startup screen.*

## Starting Microsoft Netmeeting Help

This Help file contains instructions on how to use Microsoft Netmeeting.

To start the Help file:

1. Start NetMeeting and press the **F1** key on your computer keyboard.
2. Click the **Help Topics** button.

# Starting Creative WebCam Monitor

If you are thinking of going "live" on the Internet, Creative WebCam Monitor is the application to look at. Just point your camera at your subject and pick a time interval. WebCam Monitor does the rest, including uploading the snapshots to the Internet. WebCam Monitor also acts as a motion-detecting security system which automatically e-mails you when somebody comes near your PC while you are not present.

To start Creative WebCam Monitor:
❑ Click **Start** -> **Programs** -> **Creative** -> **Creative CardCam Value ->** **WebCam Monitor**.

For help on how to use WebCam Monitor, refer to the program's help file.

To start the Help file:
1. With WebCam Monitor running, press the **F1** key on your computer keyboard.
2. Click the **Help Topics** button.

Appendixes

CREATIVE

CREATIVE CARDCAM Value

# A Technical Specifications

# Technical Specifications

This section lists the specifications of your Creative CardCam Value camera.

## Features and Specifications

- ❑ Small form factor
- ❑ CMOS image sensor
- ❑ 2 MB of on-board non-volatile SDRAM
- ❑ Storage of 22 snapshots in HR mode, 99 snapshots in LR mode
- ❑ LCD Image Counter and Mode Indicator
- ❑ **Snapshot** button
- ❑ Two-function **Power/Mode** button for Power On/Off and mode selection
- ❑ Front LED
- ❑ Fixed focus high-quality lens: minimum Field Of View of 52 degrees. Range: 24 inches to infinity
- ❑ Built-in optical viewfinder
- ❑ Powered by two "AAA" Alkaline batteries
- ❑ Four different modes of still capture:
  High Resolution (640 x 480 pixels, software interpolated)
  Low resolution 320 x 240 pixels)
  Multiple exposure capture 320 x 240 pixels at 5 shots/sec
  10-second time-delayed exposure at 640 x 480 pixel (software interpolated) resolution

## Detached mode

- ❑ Snapshots at 640 x 480-pixels (software interpolated) or 320 x 240 pixels
- ❑ Multiple snapshots at 320 x 240 pixels at 5 shots per second
- ❑ Time-delayed snapshots at 640 x 480 (software interpolated) at a fixed 10-second delay

- Powered by two AAA batteries
  **Note:** Battery life depends on mode and battery type.
- Auto shut-off after three minutes of idle time

## Docked mode

- Video capture at up to 30 frames per second at 320 x 240 pixels, 176 x 144 and 160 x 120 pixels on an optimal system.
- Snapshots in 24-bit color at image resolutions of 640 x 480 pixels (software interpolated), 320 x 240 pixels.
- Powered via a computer's Universal Serial Bus (USB) port or self-powered USB hub (powered by an external power source).

## Audio/visual indications

Audio cues (beep tones) can be activated for notification of operational status.

- On power-up and power-down: 2 beeps
- When a shot is taken: 1 long beep
- During countdown in time-delayed capture mode: 1 beep per flash
- Battery Low first warning: 3 beeps
- Battery Low final warning: 5 beeps

Visual indicator: single LED at the front flashes with increasing speed as countdown continues

## Sensor

- CMOS image sensor
- Light Sensitivity: 10 lux

## Exposure Control

- Automatic

## Color Balance

- Automatic

## Driver and Operating System Compatibility

- USB model supports Windows 98, Windows 98SE, Windows Me, Windows 2000 and Windows XP
- Microsoft Windows Image Acquisition (WIA) support
- WDM MiniDriver for DirectShow, and Video For Windows compatibility
- TWAIN support
- Standard interface works with virtually all camera applications including Microsoft NetMeeting
- Microsoft Still Image (STI) support

CREATIVE

CREATIVE CardCam Value

# B Troubleshooting

# Troubleshooting

This appendix provides solutions to problems you may encounter during installation or normal use.

## Problem Installing Software

**The setup program for Creative CardCam Value does not run automatically after the Installation CD is inserted into the CD-ROM drive.**

The AutoPlay feature in your Windows system may not be enabled.

*To install the software from the CD:*

1. Insert the installation CD in the CD-ROM drive.
2. Click **Start** -> **Run**.
3. In the **Open** box, type **D:\CTRUN\CTRUN.EXE** (where D: represents your CD-ROM drive).
4. Follow the instructions on the screen to complete the installation.

## Problems Using Creative CardCam Value

**There is no USB port available to connect the USB cable.**

*Do one of the following:*

- ❑ Unplug the device currently connected to the USB port.
- ❑ Add a self-powered USB hub.
- ❑ Add a PCI USB card.

**An application reports that the video driver is already in use, or that the camera cannot be found.**

*Do the following:*

- ❑ The camera is not properly connected. To resolve this problem, ensure that the camera's USB connector is inserted, and that the USB host controller is enabled in your computer's BIOS. Refer to your computer's documentation for information on the BIOS.
- ❑ Reinstall the video capture drivers and restart your computer.

**The image is too bright even though exposure and brightness levels have been adjusted.**

The amount of light entering the camera has exceeded the exposure control limit. There may be a very bright object in the camera's view.

Avoid pointing the camera at very bright objects (for example, sunlight, anticipated light sources, or highly reflective surfaces).

**Insufficient system resources reserved for the USB port, causing the computer to be unable to function.**

There are too many devices in the computer, causing IRQ conflicts with the computer's USB controller.

*Do the following:*

1. Remove some devices from the computer.
2. Restart the computer. The computer will automatically re-allocate the resources.

**When the camera is connected to the computer, pressing the Snapshot button does not start an application.**

The application to be activated has not been pre-selected. Make sure that you have selected an application for taking pictures.

*Do the following:*

1. Click **Start** -> **Settings** -> **Control Panel**.
2. Double-click the **Scanners & Cameras** icon. The **Scanners & Cameras Properties** dialog box appears.
3. Click the **Devices** tab.
4. Click **Creative CardCam Value (Video),** and then click the **Properties** button. The **Creative CardCam Value (Video) Properties** dialog box appears.
5. Click the **Events** tab.
6. Make sure that the **Disable device events** check box is not selected.
7. In the **Camera events** box, click **Open Application**.
8. In the **Send to this application** box, click **Ulead Photo Express** and/or other applications that you want to activate by pressing the **Snapshot** button.

If you select more than one application, you will be prompted to choose one of them when you press the **Snapshot** button.

## Problems when changing batteries

**When inserting batteries into the camera and turning it on, or docking it to your computer, you may see partially lit LCD segments. The computer fails to detect the camera. The camera may freeze and stop responding to controls. Replacing the batteries with fresh new cells does not solve the problem.**

When changing batteries, make sure you insert fresh new batteries. Inserting weak or faulty batteries may cause this condition to occur.

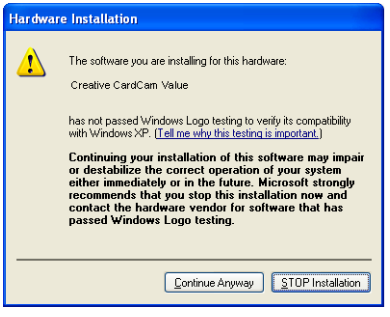
*Do the following:*

- ❑ Remove all batteries and wait for at least three minutes before inserting fresh new batteries.
- ❑ Turn on the camera.

# Problems in Windows XP

**A Hardware Installation error message appears on a Windows XP operating system when a driver is being installed.**

At the time of this product's release, Microsoft strongly encouraged companies to submit their hardware solutions for certification. If a hardware device driver is not submitted, or does not qualify, for Microsoft certification, a warning message similar to the one below appears.


Hardware Installation
The software you are installing for this hardware:
Creative CardCam Value
has not passed Windows Logo testing to verify its compatibility with Windows XP. (Tell me why this testing is important.)
Continuing your installation of this software may impair or destabilize the correct operation of your system either immediately or in the future. Microsoft strongly recommends that you stop this installation now and contact the hardware vendor for software that has passed Windows Logo testing.
Continue Anyway
STOP Installation

You may see this message when installing this driver. If you do, you may choose to click the **Continue Anyway** button. Creative has tested this driver on Windows XP, and it does not impair or destablize your computer.

If you need more XP-related information, go to the product web site's Help.

CREATIVE

CREATIVE CardCam Value

# C USB Compatibility

# Note on USB Compatibility

While testing Creative CardCam Value on PC motherboards with integrated Universal Serial Bus (USB) ports, we encountered a small number of motherboards that do not meet the USB specification exactly. These and other non-USB-compliant motherboards may not operate correctly with Creative CardCam Value. Fortunately, the manufacturers of some of these motherboards have released new versions of motherboards or BIOS to address the problem.

If the setup program warns you that your motherboard's USB port is incompatible with Creative CardCam Value, or if the camera does not work on your system and you suspect that the problem may be related to your PC's USB port, the following is a list of available options:

1. Contact your PC vendor.
   Your PC vendor may be able to upgrade your motherboard or its BIOS to a newer version that addresses USB incompatibilities.
2. Use a PCI host adapter that provides USB connectors.
   If you are not able to upgrade your motherboard or its BIOS, we recommend this approach.
3. Attach the Creative CardCam Value to a powered USB hub.
   Some USB devices (such as monitors) also operate as powered USB hubs; you can also buy dedicated powered USB hubs which are to be attached to your PC's USB port. However, in some cases, attaching a powered USB hub to a non-USB-compliant USB motherboard connector will not solve the problem.

To look for a USB compatible product, you can visit the product search page at the official USB Web site: **http://www.usb.org/app/search/products**.